



General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 102

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/56/565)]

56/205. Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda¹ and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements² adopted in Istanbul in 1996,

Recalling also the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly, on an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in New York from 6 to 8 June 2001,³

Stressing the importance of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,⁴ which was adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session,

Recognizing the need for renewed political will and for the mobilization and allocation of new and additional resources at the national and international levels in order to achieve full and accelerated implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

Reiterating that strengthened international cooperation is an essential element for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

¹ Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

² Ibid., annex I.

³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Special Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/S-25/7/Rev.1).

⁴ See resolution S-25/2, annex.

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration⁵ of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020, as proposed in the "Cities without Slums" initiative,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁶
2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full implementation of all the commitments undertaken in the Habitat Agenda;⁷
3. *Emphasizes* the importance, at all levels of policy-making and in the context of sustainable development, of giving high priority to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,⁴ including achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, particularly in developing countries;
4. *Recognizes* that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)⁷ and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development;
5. *Recognizes also* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and stresses that the international community should fully implement its commitments to support Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, by providing the requisite means of implementation and through the creation of an international enabling environment;
6. *Requests* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, programmes, funds and regional commissions, as well as the World Bank and regional development banks, consistent with their respective mandates, to support fully the effective implementation at all levels of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;
7. *Invites* local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to contribute to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and encourages them to participate, as appropriate, in the Urban Forum and the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, in their roles as advisory bodies to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), bearing in mind the decisions of the Commission on Human Settlements on the establishment of those two bodies;
8. *Urges* the Executive Director of the Programme to assess the role and funding of the regional programme activity centres of the Programme with a view to providing improved technical cooperation services to Governments to implement the

⁵ See resolution 55/2.

⁶ A/56/477.

⁷ Formerly known as the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (see resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001).

Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium at all levels;

9. *Invites* Governments and the Habitat Agenda partners, including local authorities, to facilitate the dissemination of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

10. *Invites* the Executive Director of the Programme to transmit the outcomes of the relevant intergovernmental processes relating to sustainable human settlements development to the preparatory processes of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the relevant decisions of the preparatory processes of those two conferences;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*90th plenary meeting
21 December 2001*